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U.S. WARNS IT WOULD STRONGLY OPPOSE AN ATTEMPTED IRAQI INVASION OF JORDAN
By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13 (JTA) -- The Bush administration has warned Iraqi President Saddam Hussein that any attempt to move Iraqi troops into Jordan would be strongly opposed by the United States.

"I think his invasion of Jordan we would treat in a similar manner to his invasion of Kuwait," Brent Scowcroft, President Bush's national security adviser, said Sunday on CBS-TV's "Face the Nation" program.

Scowcroft indicated that the United States would act against an invasion of Jordan partly to keep Israel out of the U.S.-led international effort to force Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait.

Israel has remained on the sidelines of the international effort in which economic sanctions have been taken against Iraq and troops from Egypt, Morocco and Syria are joining U.S. forces to defend Saudi Arabia against any attempted Iraqi invasion.

The government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has warned that while the takeover of Kuwait does not threaten Israel's security, Israel would act if Iraq moved on Jordan.

"This is not an Arab-Israeli issue," Scowcroft stressed.

"I think to turn it into an Arab-Israeli issue is not in anybody's interest -- the Arabs, the U.S., the Israelis," he said.

"We ought to keep the focus on what it is, that is, the civilized world rising up against a clear case of unbridled brutal aggression."

But Scowcroft said that Hussein of Iraq is trying "to turn the Arab world against what is going on by involving the Israelis as a possibility."

From the beginning of his invasion against Kuwait, Hussein has sought to label the U.S.-led opposition as "American-Zionist intervention."

Link To Territories Rejected

Hussein's latest effort to link his aggression with the Arab-Israeli conflict was his announcement Sunday that Iraq would not withdraw from Kuwait until Israel withdraws from "all occupied areas," Syrian troops leave Lebanon and U.S. troops pull out of Saudi Arabia.

In Jerusalem, Israel's Foreign Ministry rejected Hussein's proposal, calling it a "propaganda ploy to divert world opinion from the main issue: a large country devouring a small neighbor in naked, unprovoked aggression."

President Bush rejected the proposal in a statement to reporters Sunday at his vacation home in Kennebunkport, Maine.

"I don't see anything to be pleasing in there at all," Bush said. "None, nothing."

In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said Monday that Hussein's proposal was "absurd, ridiculous and ludicrous."

The tying together of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and Israel's "occupation" of the territories is a "false linkage," she said.

(JTA correspondent David Landau in Jerusalem contributed to this report.)

NEWS ANALYSIS:
GRASS-ROOTS ARAB SUPPORT FOR IRAQ HAS DAMAGED ISRAELI PEACE MOVEMENT
By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 13 (JTA) -- Ostracized by much of the Arab world and blockaded by the West for his takeover of Kuwait, President Saddam Hussein of Iraq has nevertheless scored points that could have serious repercussions for his Arab foes and has already done severe damage to the peace camp in Israel.

The Iraqi leader has generated fervent grass-roots support among Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

There also have been fiercely pro-Iraq demonstrations in Jordan.

Since he invaded oil-rich Kuwait on Aug. 2 and annexed it shortly thereafter, Hussein has made clear that he intends to generate internal pressures in the Arab countries to force their governments to support him, like it or not, against his enemies in the West.

The Palestinians who took to the streets in the West Bank and Gaza Strip over the weekend, waving Iraqi and Palestinian flags, could be harbingers of popular demonstrations in those Arab countries that have followed the U.S. lead to isolate Hussein.

And they already have divided and discredited Israelis working to find common ground with Palestinian moderates in the pursuit of peace.

Abba Eban, perhaps the leading spokesman of Israeli doves, was furious about the Palestinian demonstrations.

No future meaningful progress toward peace between Israel and the Palestinians can be based on "people who identify with Saddam Hussein," he declared Monday.

Scorn From The Right Wing

Eban said it was "very serious" that Palestinians who should be supportive of the forces of peace are "flocking to the black banner of Saddam Hussein."

The former foreign minister spoke after Labor Party doves gathered Sunday night to take stock of the embarrassing situation in which recent developments have cast them.

Representatives of the Labor Party and other left-of-center Knesset factions had met only a week earlier with Palestinian representatives at a Jerusalem hotel.

Although they failed to agree on a joint statement, the very fact that Israelis and Palestinians were meeting in Jerusalem was regarded as an achievement.

Kuwait had already been invaded by the time the meeting took place, but Arab popular reaction had not yet crystallized.

What had happened was the brutal murder of two Jewish teen-agers just outside Jerusalem, presumably by Palestinian terrorists.

That triggered three days of unprecedented mob violence by Jews against Arabs in the Israeli capital and its environs. Two Palestinians were killed and scores injured, as Palestinian property was destroyed.

The Israeli right wing, some of whose spokesmen publicly identified with the mobs, has

heaped scorn on the dovish camp for meeting with the Palestinians.

They are pointing not only to the murders but to the fact that some of the Palestinian personalities who attended the meeting with the Israeli peace advocates are now waving the flag for Hussein.

These include Faisal Hussein, founder of the Arab Studies Institute in East Jerusalem, which advocates non-violent resistance to the Israeli presence in the administered territories.

Israeli Arabs Back Iraq, Too

Hussein is the senior secular nationalist leader in Jerusalem. He is deputy to the chairman of the Supreme Moslem Council in Jerusalem, Sheik Sa'ad a-Din al-Alami, who sent a message of support to Hussein on Sunday.

The East Jerusalem daily Al-Fajr, whose editor, Hanna Siniora, is another Palestinian nationalist with whom Israeli doves have had contact, headlined Alami's support of Hussein's "struggle against the impure invaders."

In the past, Alami has identified with the moderate, pro-Jordanian faction of Palestinians.

In recent months, the Supreme Moslem Council has been dominated by PLO supporters in the territories, including Hussein.

PLO chief Yasir Arafat, moreover, is one of the few Arab leaders to condone Hussein's seizure of Kuwait.

And Hamas, the fundamentalist Moslem group and archrival of the secular PLO in the territories, also expressed support for Iraq on Monday.

Hamas circulated a leaflet urging Arabs to unite in a holy war against the United States and to harm American interests wherever possible. The leaflet described the present crisis as a conflict between Islam and the West.

Even among Israel's Arab citizens, there is widespread support for the Iraqi invasion. A poll taken by an Arabic weekly found that 60 percent of Israeli Arabs back Hussein.

An Arab Knesset member, Abd-el Wahab Darousha of the Arab Democratic Party, explained his position.

"I am not a fan of Saddam, but neither am I an admirer of the oil sheiks," he said Monday, referring to the deposed emir of Kuwait and the U.S.-backed Saudi Arabian royal family.

U.S. May Be Indebted To Syria

Darousha welcomed Hussein's proposal to link a settlement of the Kuwaiti crisis with the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Saudi Arabia and Israel's withdrawal from the administered territories, the Golan Heights and southern Lebanon.

Eban said Monday he was "very sorry" that people high in the Likud-led government here were "shouting hurrah" in the belief that the peace process is a dead issue because of recent developments.

In point of fact, Eban said, the United States will be "very grateful" to Egypt and Syria for their current roles in the Gulf crisis, which help the Americans project their intervention as a non-imperialistic, multinational venture.

Egypt and Syria are both supportive of the anti-Iraq effort, and the Egyptians have already sent a token military force to join the Americans in Saudi Arabia.

Eban suggested therefore that Washington may well be called upon to show its "gratitude" by an energetic revival of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process once the Gulf crisis abates.

ISRAELI OFFICIAL DENIES TOURISM DROP, BUT U.S. TRAVELERS EXPRESSING CONCERN By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 13 (JTA) -- Israel's minister of tourism has angrily denied media reports that the Persian Gulf crisis has precipitated a large number of cancellations of trips to Israel and opened the prospect of a sharp falloff in Israel's tourist traffic.

Tourism Minister Gideon Patt was so enraged when asked by army radio about the prospect of a decline in tourism that he demanded the reporter's dismissal.

"You in the media are half-prophets," Patt retorted when questioned by veteran broadcaster Dan Shilon. "I regret your chutzpah and will take it up with the proper persons."

In the United States, meanwhile, tour operators are saying that concern is running high among those planning to travel to Israel. While there have been some cancellations, they said, the number has not been overwhelming.

"We haven't had any major cancellations," said Eileen Lowe Hart, director of marketing for Isram, one of the largest U.S. operators of tours to Israel. "Having been doing business in Israel for 24 years, we are quite used to these ups and downs."

For Isram and other tourism agencies, the timing of the crisis has somewhat minimized its effects.

Most Jewish travelers to Israel have completed their summer trips or are in the midst of their trips, tour operators said. Jewish tourism then tends to slow down until the High Holidays, when it again increases.

Those who have planned to go to Israel for the holidays in September "are waiting to see what is going to happen," Hart said.

Concern About Other Countries

Paul Levovitz, a travel consultant for Compass Travel, said, "It would be fair to say that people are concerned. People who have made plans are putting them on hold," he said.

Compass Travel also handles a great deal of tourism for Christian groups traveling to Israel, Egypt and Jordan. He said that ministers have called him to express concern about the safety of all of the legs of their trips, not only Israel.

But Levovitz said that even in Amman, where there have been anti-Western demonstrations, hotels are still in operation.

A spokesman for the United Jewish Appeal, which sponsors fund-raising missions to Israel, said his organization's only direct response to the situation has been to distribute a State Department statement which notes that there is no travel advisory in effect for Israel proper.

However, there is a longstanding U.S. warning for those traveling in the administered territories.

The spokesman said he did not know whether there had been cancellations by those scheduled to participate in upcoming UJA missions for major donors to Operation Exodus, the campaign for resettlement of Soviet Jews.

The Persian Gulf crisis has affected Israeli tourism to other countries. Many would-be holiday makers in Israel have dropped their plans to go to Turkey in August. The relatively popular tourist destination shares a border with Iraq.

(JTA staff writer Allison Kaplan in New York contributed to this report.)

EX-NAZI ARTHUR RUDOLPH LEAVES CANADA, BUT IMMIGRATION PROCEEDINGS CONTINUE
By Cassandra Freeman

TORONTO, Aug. 13 (JTA) -- Claiming "extreme hardship emotionally, healthwise and financially," former Nazi rocket scientist Arthur Rudolph has returned to Hamburg, West Germany, for medical treatment while hearings continue to determine his admissibility to Canada.

Rudolph, 83, who is currently seeking visitor's status in Canada, voluntarily gave up his American citizenship in 1984 rather than face denaturalization proceedings because of his role in a rocket plant that used slave labor during World War II.

His lawyer, Barbara Kulaszka, presented an affidavit from Rudolph detailing his illnesses and financial difficulties, the Toronto Globe and Mail reported.

Rudolph was advised, however, that if he tries to return to Canada he may have to go through the same investigative procedure again.

"Once he seeks admission again, it's a whole new ballgame," adjudication official Grant Simmie said.

But the outcome of the current hearing may influence any future decision about Rudolph's admissibility, he added.

There has been much speculation in the media and in the Jewish community that Rudolph's visit was a public relations bid to win back his U.S. citizenship. Rudolph now insists he acted under coercion in relinquishing it.

He was brought to the United States in 1945, one of many ex-Nazis employed in the U.S. defense and space programs.

Manuel Prutschi, a spokesman for the Canadian Jewish Congress, suggested that Rudolph left Canada because he achieved what he planned.

"Rudolph seems to think he has milked the system as far as publicity goes," Prutschi said.

Could Be Barred For Life

To be admitted to Canada, he must prove he is not guilty of complicity in war crimes committed at the Dora-Nordhausen concentration camp, whose inmates were used as slave labor by the nearby Mittelwerk factory, where V-2 rockets were produced.

From 1943 to 1945, Rudolph was a supervisor at the rocket plant. At least 20,000 Dora-Nordhausen inmates died working there or on other projects.

Rudolph came to Canada on July 1 but was told he would have to prove he was not a war criminal in order to visit this country.

If the current hearing finds him admissible, he could be allowed into Canada in the future, depending on evidence presented at that time.

But if a "removal order" is issued against him, he could be barred from Canada for life. Only the minister of justice can rescind such an order, Simmie said.

Canadian Jewish organizations are hoping for a decision within the next three weeks.

"Obviously we're pleased Rudolph has left, but we're still hoping for a swift and favorable decision that will bar him from the country," said Paul Marcus, a spokesman for B'nai Brith Canada.

According to the Toronto Star, Kulaszka said Sunday she doubts her 83-year-old client will return to Canada.

"This country has treated him in a most abominable way," she was quoted as saying.

FIRST IMPORTED MOBILE HOMES TO ARRIVE WITHIN 2 MONTHS, SHARON TELLS CABINET
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 13 (JTA) -- The first imported mobile homes authorized by the government will arrive within two months, Housing Minister Ariel Sharon told the Cabinet on Sunday.

The first shipment of 1,000 units will be followed by another 4,000 by the end of the year.

Many are not intended for immigrants, but Israelis rendered homeless by soaring rents.

The government authorized imports in the amount of \$500 million, a far cry from Sharon's call for a \$3 billion crash program to import tens of thousands of mobile and prefabricated houses over the next several years.

The government has also authorized the construction of 45,000 apartments. Most of them will be built in Galilee and the Negev.

An Israel Defense Force officer told the Cabinet that a review of the army's housing stock showed that the Israel Defense Force has the potential to provide living quarters for many more than the 5,000 immigrants it originally thought it could house.

Meanwhile, Sharon urged world Jewry to contribute more to the absorption of immigrants in Israel. He was joined by Absorption Minister Yitzhak Peretz and the deputy minister, Geula Cohen.

Peretz, an independent member of the Knesset originally from the Shas party, and Cohen, of the right-wing Tehiya, insist that the government, not the Jewish Agency, should lead the campaign among world Jewry to contribute to aliyah.

Jewish Agency Chairman Simcha Dinitz, however, rejected their insinuation that the agency is not mobilizing Diaspora Jews sufficiently to help Israel absorb immigrants. The Jewish Agency is the chief beneficiary of funds raised in the United States by the United Jewish Appeal and elsewhere by Keren Hayesod.

Pledges have increased considerably, Dinitz said. He agreed it was possible to raise more funds from Diaspora Jews, but only if they are convinced that a national emergency exists in Israel.

Justice Minister Dan Meridor estimated it would cost Israel \$1 billion to absorb another million Jews. In his view, it is not enough to raise money overseas. He emphasized the need to encourage Jewish business leaders to invest in the local economy.

ISRAELI UNEMPLOYMENT TOPS 10 PERCENT
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 13 (JTA) -- Unemployment is looming as a major problem for Israel, and not only in the short term.

The jobless rate topped 10 percent in the second quarter of the year and is not expected to decline for at least the next five years, according to Finance Ministry forecasts.

The reason is that immigrants flooding the country will not be immediately be absorbed into the economy.

Seasonally adjusted figures released Sunday by the Central Bureau of Statistics showed the jobless rate at 10.1 percent of the work force during the period of April to June 1990. That was up from 9.4 percent in the previous quarter.

The Finance Ministry projected unemployment will hover around 10 percent through 1994.

REVISIONIST LITERATURE SURFACES IN POLAND, TOUCHING OFF CONCERN

By Charles Hoffman

JERUSALEM, Aug. 13 (JTA) -- Scholars at the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial and museum have denounced material circulated by an extreme right-wing group in Poland that expresses support for Western figures who deny Adolf Hitler carried out mass murders of European Jewry.

Professor Yisrael Gutman, head of research at Yad Vashem, and Dr. Shmuel Krakowski, head of the museum archive, said that materials published in a newsletter entitled "Nasze Sprawy" (Matters of Our Concern) are "shocking."

Copies of the newsletter were obtained by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency from the Polish Historical Society and relayed to Yad Vashem. The society had expressed concern about the newsletter after the Solidarity newspaper Gazeta Wyborcza editorialized against it.

"I have seen many anti-Semitic publications appearing recently in Poland," said Gutman of Yad Vashem, "but this is the first time that I have seen material in Poland that denies that the Holocaust took place."

"This kind of material is terrible in other countries," Gutman said. "But in the land where the death camps were established, it is absolutely barbaric. The Poles knew what was happening to the Jews. Even if they didn't commit mass murder, they were witnesses to mass murder."

The first two issues of "Nasze Sprawy" contain articles propagating the views of three Western figures who have asserted that central aspects of the Holocaust did not take place: David Irving, Ernst Zundel and Robert Faurisson.

"We welcome the emergence of democracy in Poland," Krakowski said, noting that political groups can now circulate views that were previously suppressed. "But racist incitement of this nature should be banned," he said.

"We assume that the appearance of Holocaust denial literature in Poland is a marginal phenomenon. But it is still very worrisome."

'Threat' Of World Zionism

Both Krakowski and Gutman are Holocaust survivors from Poland. Gutman is a member of an international council advising Polish authorities on changes to be made at the Auschwitz museum.

The newsletter is printed in the city of Radom by a small movement apparently headed by a Professor Mieczyslaw Trzeciak. He is also a leader of the right-wing, anti-Semitic Grunwald movement.

One issue of the newsletter printed a reader's letter quoting from an article by Trzeciak, in which he says that "a threat to Poland stems from world Zionism."

"A small group of Jews rules over 40 million Poles. The Polish servants of this group are their 'shabbos goys,' and they are worse than Jews," it says, adding: "They are helping the Jews to establish Zionism in Poland and to rob our national spirit."

A slogan on the first page of the newsletter says that "this paper is dedicated to youth and students in the belief that they will reject communism and capitalism, and will adopt the program of national democracy."

Gutman said that the reference to "national democracy" seems to be an attempt to revive the spirit of the prewar National Democrats, a right-wing movement that was virulently anti-Semitic.

RUMORED VISIT TO AUSCHWITZ CONVENT BY ANTI-SEMITES WILL BE THWARTED

PARIS, Aug. 13 (JTA) -- The Polish Embassy indicated Monday it would not issue a visa to the dissident Catholic priest Monsignor Marcel Lefebvre, who reportedly wants to hold a mass at the Auschwitz convent Wednesday.

According to persistent rumors, Lefebvre, an anti-Semitic rejectionist of the mainstream Catholic Church, plans to say mass Aug. 15 at the controversial convent on the grounds of the former death camp.

It was rumored that Lefebvre will be accompanied by Jean-Marie Le Pen, leader of the extreme right-wing National Front.

Polish authorities here said they were aware of the rumors, but no Polish Consulate in France has reported a visa application from Le Pen or Lefebvre.

Piotr Chruszczowski, first secretary at the embassy, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the Foreign Ministry in Warsaw asked to be alerted if either man applied for visas.

According to Chruszczowski, there is little chance they would be issued on such short notice.

Le Pen, meanwhile, called his rumored trip a "groundless canard."

The rightist leader, who has publicly called the gas chambers "a minor footnote to history," said there was "no reason in principle why I should not go to Auschwitz, but I had no intention to do so."

He also said he had "no relations with Msgr. Lefebvre" and claimed "all this is pure disinformation issued by the usual hostile headquarters."

That was probably a reference to Jewish and other groups in France who regard Le Pen's National Front as racist and anti-Semitic.

Lefebvre broke with the Roman Church after Vatican Council II and formed a fundamentalist Catholic sect in France disowned by the Vatican.

A rebel against modern church doctrine, he rejects the absolution of Jews for the death of Jesus and insists the Mass be recited in Latin.

EUROPEAN RIGHT WING SPLIT ON IRAQ

By Ruth E. Gruber

ROME, Aug. 13 (JTA) -- The current crisis in the Persian Gulf has split Jean-Marie Le Pen and Pino Rauti, two leaders of the extreme right wing in Europe, who have voiced sharply differing opinions on how to deal with Iraq.

"Hussein of Iraq, the new Hitler, has succeeded in putting Israel and Syria, Russia and the United States in agreement, but also is causing battles among the fascists of Europe," commented the Turin daily La Stampa.

The division was sparked by a television interview in which Le Pen, leader of France's National Front, called Kuwait an artificial nation and said Iraq had done well to remove it from the map.

Rauti, leader of Italy's neo-fascist Italian Social Movement, expressed surprise and displeasure with Le Pen's remark.

"It's incredible, really incredible," he told Italian reporters. Rauti has voiced opposition to the Iraqi invasion and supports Italian ships being sent to the Gulf.

He said, "Le Pen is mistaken when he talks about artificial nations. Using this reasoning, Jordan and an infinity of states and emirates also have borders that can be put under discussion."